

## State of Tennessee Department of State Tennessee State Library and Archives

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## GOVERNOR WILLIAM CARROLL PAPERS [SECOND ADMINSTRATION] 1829-1835

(GP 10)

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## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The second administrations of Governor William Carroll were much like the first; there were no distracting wars; the Indian questions were quiescent and the country generally was devoting itself to business. It was probably during this period that the foundations for some of the state's agricultural fortunes began to be laid; various resorts, like Pleasant Exchange and numerous watering places, were commencing to enjoy popularity.

The State got its first penitentiary, completed in 1831. Concurrent with this, the reconstruction of the State's penal system and the rewriting of the laws governing it became necessary. As a result, courts gradually changed the character of the sentences meted out; the necessity for the pillory and whipping post vanished with the construction of a commodious and secure prison, and decentralization of local government in the respect increased.

The practice continued of appointing Justices of the Peace in accordance with the militia districts into which the State was divided. The crime of slave stealing continued to plague the community; however, instead of stealing slaves in Tennessee and disposing of them in Mississippi, the trend was now to steal them in Kentucky and dispose them in Tennessee.

Homesteading continued to be a major preoccupation. The county surveyor and the entry taker were still important officials. And on top of this, Tennessee received one more Congressman.

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